

NYPD
SCHOOL SAFETY DIVISION
COMMUNITY OUTREACH
UNIT



Gangs & Crews
Of
New York



Learning Outcomes

- Define Gangs and Crews
- Explain Gang Crew
- List reasons why youth may join gangs and how they are recruited
- Recognize the signs that indicate a youth may be involved in a gang
- Name some facts and stats about gun violence
- Name some media and game influences that affect youth
- Explain the consequences of being involved or associated with gangs
- List resources or programs that is available to combat gang activities

Gang

- A group of 2 or more that form together for the purpose of criminal activity

Example: murder, rape, drugs, robbery, graffiti, etc.

- Known by a particular name
- Organized with a leader and followers
- Usually claim a certain area (turf)
- Use special phrases, terms, nicknames



TRADITIONAL NYC GANGS

- CRIP
- BLOODS
- NETA
- DDP
- MS 13
- LATIN KINGS
- TRINITARIOS
- MEXICAN MAFIA
- LOS VATOS LOCOS
- Etc...



Crews

- A group of people associating or classed together: company, set, team, dance group, gang, etc.

USUALLY THERE ARE....

- No initiations
- No consequences if you leave



*** There are different types of crews: dance, graffiti, neighborhood, etc. ***

Crew Gang

- Can be a current or former gang member
- No obligations to any specific groups
- May be a mixture of different gangs
- **Once a crew commits a criminal act they are treated as a gang under the New York State Penal Law*

10/90



Some of the Crews in NYC

- YB's- Young Bosses, Young Bloods
- YG's- Young Gunnas, Young Gangsters
- ABG- Anybody get it, or Almighty Blood Gang
- AG- Albany Gang
- HB-Hood Barbies
- VCG- Very Crispy Gangsters
- Rockstars
- Hoodstars
- Wave Gang
- FAM-Flatlands Ave Murderers
- Reckless Fam



Reasons Youths Join Gangs

- Attention
- Low self esteem
- Love, family
- Peer pressure
- Respect
- Fear/protection
- Intimidation/ Cohesion
- Access to drugs, guns, money, power
- Family tradition
- Media Influence
- Excitement
- Obligation
- Just wanting to belong to something



How youth are recruited

- Born in
- Jumped in
- Blessed in
- Criminal activity
- Sexed in

(usually females)

- File / Education
- Fee / and /
- Seduction

NOT
ALWAYS!!!



Warning signs

- Interest in certain colors and clothing
- Unexplained wealth
- Hangs out with gang members
- Staying out late
- Changes in behavior
- Poor attendance in school
- Use hand signals, slang, and graffiti
- Trouble with the police
- Carries a weapon
- Tattoos with signs and symbols



More warning signs

- Isolated from family
- Lying and stealing
- A change in friends
- Personality changes
- Alcohol or Drug use/abuse
- Unexplained physical injuries



Consequences

- Incarceration (Jail)
- Being killed by gang rivals
- Having a serious injury/ Becoming crippled for life
- Putting other family members at risk
- Loss of Family & Friends
- Forced to commit criminal and sexual acts
- Dropping out of school, limiting their chances for higher education
- Hard to get out!!!!!!

Consequences

- Gang recruitment is on going
 - a. They recruit children as young as 7 yrs. Old
 - b. They recruit in schools, parks, parties, and through out all neighborhoods
 - c. They also offer money, protection
- Most gang members drop out of school
- Most regret joining
- End up in (3) places
 - jail, hospital, death.



Facts & Stats

- ⦿ Each year more than 20,000 youths under the age 20 are killed or injured by firearms in the U.S.
- ⦿ An average of 16 youths are murdered each day
- ⦿ 75 or more children are shot in the U.S. each day
- ⦿ Everyday 80 people in the U.S. die from Gun violence



Media Influence



Social Media

Texting

Tube

BY KIM YOUNG

THANK YOU



Contact:
Community Outreach Unit
718-730-8550

- **Speak Up - (866) SPEAK-UP**
773-2587

Or

Text NYC to 847 411

- **ILLEGAL HANDGUN – (866) GUN-STOP**
486-7867

\$1000 Reward Leading to arrest



\$1,000 
REWARD

**For information
leading to the
arrest of anyone
who possesses**

**an
ILLEGAL HANDGUN**

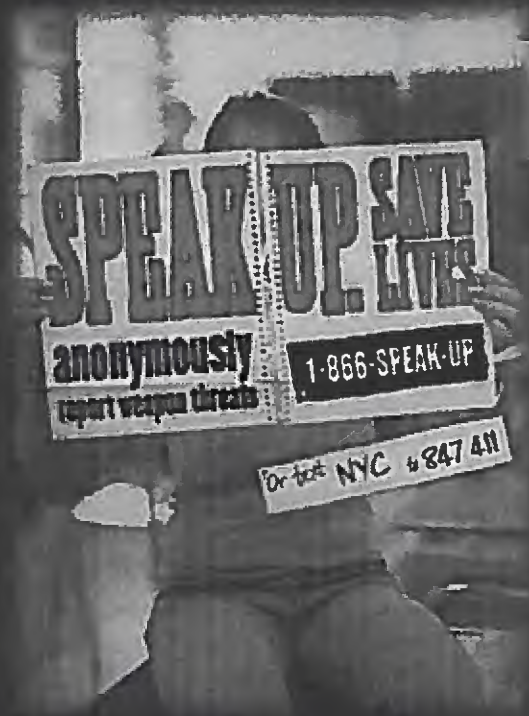
**Call
1 866 GUN-STOP**

(4 8 6 - 7 8 6 7)

**If you know someone who is carrying, selling, or using
handguns illegally, call anonymously 1 866 GUN-STOP.**

(486-7867)

Remember You don't have to leave your name.



- **Crime Stoppers (800) 577-TIPS**
Or
Email: nyscrimestoppers.org

• 311

• 911

Resources Available

- Council For Unity
- Youth Line (800) 246-4646
- District Attorney's Office in your area

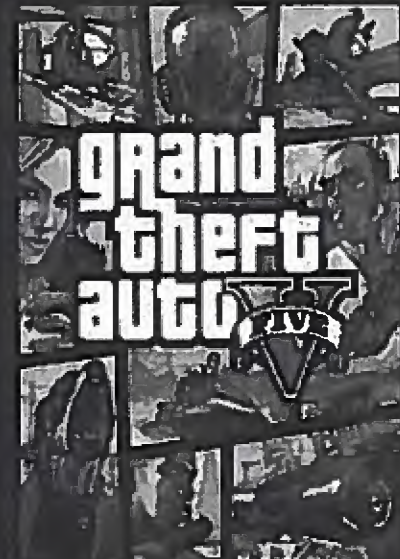
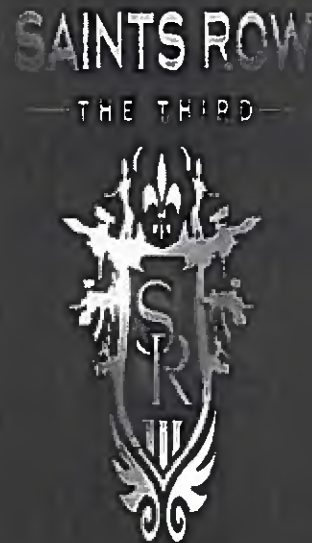
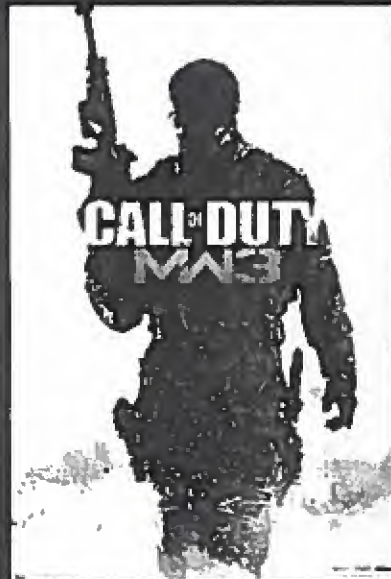
Positive Programs

- ▣ PAL
- ▣ Boys & Girls Club
- ▣ Mentor Program
- ▣ Law Enforcement

Explorers



Video Games



- Can access the internet through video game systems.
- Can communicate with other people through talk, text and or video chat
- Gamers use extremely offensive language during game play



NYPD GANG



James P. O'Neill
Police Commissioner

How does the Police Department define a gang/criminal group?

- **Gang/Criminal Group:** A group of persons with a formal or informal structure that includes designated leaders and members, that engage in or are suspected to engage in unlawful conduct.

CITYWIDE GANG MEMBERSHIP

BLOODS	27%	DOMINICAN	10%
CRIPS	13%	ASIAN	1%
LATIN KINGS	9%	ECUADORIAN	1%
MEXICAN	11%	OTHER	26%
MS 13	2%		

2018 Year to Date Gang Incidents

- **Approximately 17,571 members**
- **184 Gang Related Incidents**
- **65 Gang Motivated Incidents**

Anti Gang Bill

Criminal Street Gang Enforcement and Prevention Act

State Senate Passed May 9, 2017

- 7 new felonies for those who benefit from gang activity/recruitment
- Defendant charged with 3 gang-related crimes in 3 years
 - Lengthen prison terms
 - Gang prevention curriculum in schools
- Funding for non-profit community outreach

WARNING

- Although some gang members may be proud and vocal regarding their gang affiliation, others may not.
- Be aware, some gang members may never admit their membership to law enforcement
- Gang trends are geographical and always changing through out New York City

GANGSTER MENTALITY

- Often times, members will adopt the behavior of the “group” as a whole, attracting those individuals who are followers
- Commonly, incarcerated leaders will communicate and give orders to members on the street through social media, jail calls and email
- Younger gang members are often receiving “training” while incarcerated, making them better criminals when they re-enter the community

COMMON TRENDS IN NYC

- Smaller neighborhood groups eg. Rockstars, Jackson Avenue Gunnas (JAG), Sev Side, Very Crispy Gangsters (Weez), Anybody Gets It, Addicted to Cash (ATC), Hoodstarz, YG (Young Gunnaz), 8 Block, YB (Young Bosses), ABK, Money Boys, Stack Crew, Cash is King, Gang of Apes (GOA), 654, Woody Crime
- Decrease in newly identified traditional gang members
- Hybrid gangs – Double Jack

COMMON TRENDS IN NYC

- Shift in crimes being committed by members
- Legitimate employment-security jobs, courts, medical, military, business owners and violence interrupters
- “Legal entity to camouflage, sustain or pursue our material needs or goals”
- Investigations being conducted by numerous unit within NYPD

Crime Trends

➤ Auto

- Rental Car/Kiosk ie. Hertz, Enterprise, Alamo
- Use of Uber/Lyft and Zipcar

Crime Trends

➤ Financial

- Use of the Dark Web to obtain victim information- utilizing bitcoins
- Employees at various stores to provide customer information ie. True Religion
- Females working at banks and in retail
- Forged checks
- Debit/Gift card scams- Travel for scams
- Easy access to skimmer, scanner, and embosser technology, credit card mills
- Clearing 15K per week

CRIPS

Terminology

Translation

8B

Derogatory term used
for Bloods

15/211

Blood Killer

CUZ/LOC

Crip Member

Loc'd

Crip Initiation

BLOODS

Terminology

Translation

Crab/Hobo/Hardback

Derogatory term for
Crips

CK/ 311

Crip Killer

031

Blood Love

137

First Nation in NYC,

1993 in Rikers Island C-73

K-9/Big Apple/Focus

Police

5-50

Neutral

Plate

Food/Hit

BLOODS

Terminology

Translation

Crab/Hobo/Hardback

Derogatory term for
Crips

CK/ 311

Crip Killer

Oh La/Komrad

Blood Love

Worldwide Status

Street and incarcerated

K-9/Big Apple/Focus

Police

5-50

Neutral

Plate

Food/Hit

LATIN KINGS

Terminology

Translation

A.D.R / Amor de Rey

1-4-18

360° Strong

Love of the King

Whole Complete
Unbreakable

A.L.K.Q.N.

Almighty Latin King and
Queen Nation

Crown Council

Replace Supreme
Team

5 Points

Respect, Love,
Honesty, Unity
Knowledge

TRINITARIOS

Terminology

Dios, Patria, Libertad (DPL)
4-16-12 or 41-6-12

3NI or 947r14

7 points

Juan Pablo Duarte

"Patria"

AD Treca

157

Translation

God,Country,Freedom

Trinitario or "Patria"

Trinitario Nation

Father of National
Independence

Patriot

Love for the Trini

Only true Trinis know
each other (secret code)

DOMINICANS DON'T PLAY

Terminology

Amor de Tres
AD333

Bonz Crew

DFL

3 points

Translation

Respect for the
Founding Fathers

Subset of DDP

Dominicans for Life

Honor the
number 3

GANG RECOGNITION

- **Colors**
- **Clothing/Sports Apparel**
- **Accessories (Hats, Belts, Backpacks)**
- **Symbols (5 or 6 Point Stars)**
- **Graffiti/Cross outs/Ink color**
- **Tattoos or other Body Markings**
- **Nicknames/Tags**
- **Terminology/ Speech**
- **Hand Signs/ Stacking**
- **Rituals/Meetings/Prayers**

FOLK VS PEOPLE

Crips vs Bloods / Latin Kings

➤ SIX POINT
STAR

➤ SIX OF
ANYTHING

➤ PITCH FORKS
UP

➤ FIVE POINT
STAR

➤ FIVE OF
ANYTHING

➤ PITCH FORK
DOWN

COLORS

BLOODS

BLACK

RED

GREEN

BROWN

KHAKI

CRIPS

BLACK

BLUE

GRAY

PURPLE

ORANGE

COLORS

LATIN KINGS

BLACK

GOLD/YELLOW

RED

PURPLE

GREEN

DOMINICAN

GANGS

BLUE

RED

WHITE

BLACK

PURPLE

LIME GREEN

Criminal Groups

- New generation of gang member
- Cross membership
- Geographically based
- Development vs. Private Homes
- Average age 12-25 years old
- Shift away from communal guns
- 41% of newly identified members
- Chicago influence

Social Networking Sites and Gang Recognition

Snapchat

Facebook

Instagram

Twitter

Youtube

Worldstarhiphop

Imperialhiphop

WhatsApp

Thehoodup

BurnerApp

Xbox/Playstation Chat Rooms

Youth and Social Media

- 76% of Youth use social media
- Snapchat is currently the most popular app
- 91% Post a photo of themselves
- 71% Post their school they attend or the city where they live
- 82% Post their birthdate
- **60% have their Facebook profiles to private**

YTD Takedowns 2017

➤ **41 Case Takedowns**

➤ **498 Arrests**

Operation Money Grant

- West Harlem
- 3 Staccs gang vs Make it Happen Boyz (MHB) and Money Ave
- Over 150 identified members/associates
- 45 shooting incidents
- Initiated by the killing of Tayshana "Chicken" Murphy on Sept 11, 2011 by 2 members of MHB
- Walter "Recc" Sumtner posts video dissing 3 Stacc on Dec 15, 2011. Killed Dec 30, 2011

Operation 2fly

Operation BMB

- Bronx Gang, Homeland Security, ATF
- Prosecuted by AUSA in Southern District
- 2FLY- NYCHA Eastchester Gardens (YGz) 49pct
- BMB-Big Money Bosses (YBz) 47pct
- YGz vs. YBz
- Violence for the sake of Violence

Operation 2fly

Operation BMB

- 2 murders and 7 non fatal shooting initiated the investigation
- 120 subjects charged with Racketeering, Narcotics and Firearms
- Member of BMB (Jamal Blair) plead guilty to shooting the stray bullet that killed 92 year Sadie Mitchell
- Member of BMB (Dominick Sherland) fatally stabs 15 year old Jeffrey Delmore mistaking him for a member of 2FLY

Operation Final Kut

- Historic case
- 16 Subjects
- Bloods and Latin Kings-loyalty to neighborhood, not gang
- Operating a heroin/fentanyl and crack ring throughout Staten Island
- Defendant Stephen Cummings was charged with **manslaughter** and **criminally negligent homicide** for selling a lethal dose of opioid fentanyl to Richard Zeifert
- 18 separate shooting incidents

Operation Blue Bloods

- Prosecuted by Special Narcotics Division
- WB Savages (West Brighton Houses) 120 pct
- Charges consisted of Robbery, CPW, Reckless Endangerment, Assault and Burglary
- 15 yr old female shot in the face, intended target was a WB member
- Geographical territory based attacks (loyalty to neighborhood over gang)
- Heroin distribution and customers
- Rikers Island Correctional Facility-Mack Ballers

Operation King Crab

- Brooklyn South Gang and the Violence Reduction Task Force
- GS9: G-Stone Crips (Grimy Shooters Entertain)
- 25 Arrests
- Charges consisted of Conspiracy 2, CSCS, CPCS, Burglary, CPW

GANGS in the MILITARY

- 1% of the US Armed Forces are gang members
- Roughly between 13,000 and 14,000 and increasing
- Many are joining for advanced urban combat tactics
- For some, the military is the only option next to jail time
- Army Reserve Sergeant Jeffrey Stoleson

Graffiti

Marks gang turf

Shows affiliation to a gang

Sends messages

Shows rivalries

Indicates potential violence

Indicates alliances

Lists tags (nicknames)

Shows gangs roll call

Much more simplistic than graffiti of other gangs

Mexican gangs often eliminate vowels

They seldom use symbols in their graffiti and need very little interpretation

MEXICAN TATTOOS

- Common to have the web of their hand tattooed
- Highly symbolic to the member
 - Praying Hands “praying to God for forgiveness”
 - The Cholo-signifies the struggle for acceptance in American during the 1940's
 - Common phrases for example “MI VIDA LOCA” my crazy life or “LAUGH NOW, CRY LATER”

MS13 in NY

- Violence driven mentality
- Use of extortion
- Targeting the government and law enforcement
- 3 Programs- LA Program, East Coast Program and the NY Program
- All cliques have direct leadership from El Salvador
- 6 Established cliques in NY
 - Huntington Hempstead
 - Freeport Brentwood
 - Forest Hills Jamaica

MS13 in NY

- Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) who are apprehended by Homeland Security are transferred to the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)
- 95% of all children originate from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador
- Due to the extreme violence and extortion, many people are fleeing Central America
- Age range of children entering the US
 - 82% btw 14-17 years old
 - 68% Males

MS13 in NY

- In 2016, 59,170 unaccompanied minors entered the US
- Upon entering they are placed in either relatives homes, foster care or shelters
- Children are placed in school based on level of education, not age
- Once they arrive MS13 and 18th Street begin recruitment through extortion and violence
- Initiation process in El Salvador vs US
- Weapons of choice: Knives, machetes and bats

MS13 in NY

- Use of extortion is wide spread amongst MS members
- Murder is used as leverage
- Direct link between El Salvador and the US
- Certain culture among El Salvadorians and gang membership
- Tattoos are ONLY for gang members
- Women can not be members
- Personal appearance is very important

Gang Initiations

- Most initiations involve an individual being “beat” into the gang by a certain amount of people for a certain amount of time

Other Methods:

- **Born or Blessed into the Gang**
- **Females “sexed in” by gang superiors**